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COPY / OF 1

19 February 1959

**SUBJECT: Oxygen System Responsibility**

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REF: (a) Message this HQ dated 9 February 1959  
(b) LAC letter dated 14 February 1959

1. Reference (a) was dispatched by this Headquarters in an attempt to establish certain policies pertaining to oxygen systems and components used by the [redacted]. Since wide distribution was given the message, and since it involved policies affecting support activities beyond the scope and control of the U-2 program, specific detail outlining areas of responsibility were omitted.

2. Within the scope of the policy established by reference (a), specific responsibility for the U-2 program is assigned as follows:

a. The U-2 WOSC will utilize LAC for repair, overhaul and resupply of the Q-198 Seat Pack Assembly.

b. Component spares for the Q-198 Seat Pack Assembly and the aircraft oxygen system will be obtained by the WSSC from presently established sources, i.e., LAC, Firewal, David Clark, etc.

c. System and Service Bulletin responsibility for the aircraft and personal equipment oxygen systems is assigned to LAC for the U-2 program. Coordination with the various component vendors is mandatory when issuing Service Bulletins affecting the various components.

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of LAC letter, 14 February 1959, reference (b), [ ] (Firewel) is, or will shortly be, in place at Del Rio. The Firewel Company is under contract to this office for the services of [ ]. This action is in response to a request for such service made by General Russell on or about 25 July 1958. [ ] is responsible for monitoring all activities, equipments and systems relating to oxygen and its use. He will assist the Wing in establishing good maintenance procedures and SOP's. He will review handbooks and data for adequacy and coordinate and recommend changes to existing data and/or publications. In general, he will act as a civilian supervisor and consultant on oxygen matters.

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Approved For Release 2002/06/13 : CIA-RDP81B00878R000600010202-6

REF ID: **87720**

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4. I do not agree that [redacted] should be under contract to LAC or that [redacted] be designated as his immediate supervisor. To be successful in accomplishing his job will require very close coordination not only with [redacted] but constant and close liaison with LAC for the issuance of Service Bulletins and the publication of new or amended procedures in handbooks and data. [redacted] therefore, is responsible to, and instructed by D/MATS, but will coordinate with [redacted] the same as Pratt and Whitney Technical Representatives.

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5. I am confident that you will find [redacted] an asset to the overall program and that he will be eager to establish the close working relationships with LAC that are so necessary to successfully pursue the program.

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